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The Extinguisher

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THE EXTINGUISHER

by
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Hardly a sound, barely a quiver
from the lumpy burlap
bag,
But her own stifled sound,
her own sudden shiver
declared death
on the warm burlap bag.

Strong fingers
encompassing lumps
of the all-but-lifeless bag.
Strong fingers sweating,
tiny paws pawing—
lumps
in the burlap bag.

Cold dark water
filling
warm wet noses.
Pond water—
a miniature Hell.
Strong fingers killed,
limp fingers chilled.
The lumpy bag was still.

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